(21) A Swiss Bond and Home Maker—"Of the wood A'pine range, Through the lightly waving heart strange, Lovely and tender." — Wedder.
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Underwood & Underwood, Publishers, London, New York and Chicago.

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A village near Berne gives us this interesting glimpse of a real Swiss home. "Country houses hereabouts are almost invariably built of wood as we see them here, and paint is not necessary to protect them from decay. The dry air itself is a good preservative, and so it is practicable to let time and sunshine simply stain timbers and boards in mellow browns, making the picturesque structures look as if they grew here and belonged to the soil as much as the trees do or the rocks.

There are stories on stories about the romantic life of the Swiss in other generations, and romance is still alive here. It is not likely to die as long as sweet-faced girls like this keep growing up in the towns and villages. There seems to be something peculiarly abiding in the charm by which olive girls in Switzerland hold their boyish admirers, for it is well known that the many, many Swiss who go to France and Germany, Italy and England, almost without exception come home to Switzerland to find wives.

We can see one of the beautiful country costumes in close detail now. The brooches and festooned chains on the black velvet bodices give the traditional touch of elegance, but not everybody can afford them. This pretty young matron is able to translate the conventional idea of the dress into individual daintiness and grace. Who says a long apron is not a beautiful bit of costume? She knows better. So do we, now that we have seen her wear it.

See that interesting old *châlet* of the next-door neighbor. Perhaps you do not usually stack the winter's wood under your front windows, but it is not a bad plan. How gay the balconies are with the blossoming flowerpots and how cozy that hooded gable looks, projecting out over all the rest!"

From *Switzerland through the Stereoscope*, by M. S. Emery, with special "keyed" maps, locating the various standpoints; published by Underwood & Underwood.

A Swiss Home and its Home-maker.

Une Maison Suisse et sa Maitresse.

Ein Schweizer Heim und seine Besitzerin.

Una Habitación Suisa y su Ocupante.

Ett Schweiziskt hem och dess byggerska.

Швейцарскій домъ и его строитель.